Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 FMC-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 CG-00 DLOS-09 OES-07 DOE-15 SOE-02 L-03 H-01 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /094 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1374

AMEMBASSY LONDON

INFO AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ENRG, SF

SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICAN OIL DEPENDENCE

REF: JOHANNESBURG 1445

- 1. ACCORDING TO A DESPATCH IN LOCAL PRESS, LONDON SUNDAY TIMES HAS LEAKED A REPORT ON SOUTH AFRICAN OIL VULNERABILITY BY MARTIN BAILEY AND BERNARD RIVERS, COMMISSIONED BY UN CENTER AGAINST APARTHEID.
- 2. REPORT, TO BE ISSUED THIS WEEK, DENIES CLAIMS THAT TWO SASOL PROJECTS WOULD PROVIDE ONE-THIRD OF SOUTH AFRICA'S OIL NEEDS. REPORT ARGUES THAT INTERNATIONAL AID PROGRAM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COULD MITIGATE EFFECT OF OIL SANCTIONS ON LESOTHO, BOTSWANA, AND SWAZILAND. ALSO STATES THAT TANKERS VIOLATING SANCTIONS COULD BE OBSERVED IN S.A. PORTS AND COULD BE IMPOUNDED AT NEXT PORT OF CALL.

3. DESPITE DOUBTS OVER RIVERS' IMPARTIALITY, REPORT'S COMMENT ON SASOL SEEMS TO TALLY WITH CONCLUSIONS OF

RESOURCES' OFFICER 'JOHANNESBURG 1445) THAT TWO SASOL PROJECTS COULD PROVIDE MAXIMUM OF 22 PERCENT OF S.A. CRUDE OIL REQUIREMENTS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: PRETORIA AND JOHANNESBURG REQUEST COPIES OF BAILEY-RIVERS STUDY FROM DEPARTMENT OR LONDON WHEN ISSUED. WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED IN REACTION OF APPROPRIATE U.S. AGENCIES TO ANLYSIS CONTAINED IN JOHANNESBURG 1445 RE SASOL CAPABILITIES, PARTICULARLY INPUT-OUTPUT RATION. EDMONDSON

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